

7360 North Hoyne Ave., #1
Chicago, IL 60645
7 3 4 5 '00 MAY 22 A10:06

FDA Commissioner Jane Henney
Docket No. 00P-1211/CP1
FDA Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)
5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061
Rockville MD 20852

17 May 2000

Ms. Henney:

I am writing to submit my concerns about FDA's regulation of genetically engineered (GE) foods (FDA Docket #00P-1211/CP1).

To protect my ability to choose, all GE foods should be labeled. I want mandatory pre-market safety testing on all GE foods. Additionally, I want a moratorium on the development of new GE foods until long-term health and environmental safety tests are required.

Studies show that GE foods could create new toxins, antibiotic resistance, allergic reactions, and other dietary risks for consumers, and therefore should not be generally recognized as safe (GRAS).

Without mandatory labeling, individuals with ethical or religious dietary concerns may be unwittingly consuming foods that contain genes from other species.

In addition to health risks, GE foods pose a significant threat to the environment because of transgenic pollution. Genetic contamination of wild plant species threatens biodiversity. Similarly, organic crops are being contaminated by GE crops.

Democracy demands that citizens have the right to make choices whether it be deciding who should represent them in legislation or even what kind of food they wish to eat. By withholding knowledge from consumers about what they are purchasing with their hard-earned money to feed themselves and their families, you are removing any notion of democracy in the purchasing and consumption of food. You are in fact FORCING people to eat food they might otherwise choose not to eat if the food industry were held accountable for what they do to the food they offer the public. This totalitarian approach to labeling foods is INEXCUSABLE and UNDEMOCRATIC.

The FDA should change its policy so that labeling of genetically engineered foods is mandatory. Thank you.

Sincerely,



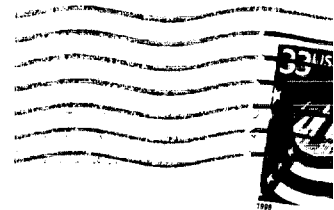
Thomas Comerford

cc: White House
Rep. Jan Schakowsky

00P-1211

C608

360 N. HOYNE #1
CHICAGO IL 60645



H/A
305

FDA DOCKETS MANAGEMENT BRANCH
5630 FISHERS LANE, ROOM 1061
ROCKVILLE, MD 20857

RE: DOCKET NO. 00P-1211/CP1

